

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KIYOTAKA MATSUMOTO ET AL
Serial No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED
Filed: JANUARY 15, 2002
Title: POINT MANAGING METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments to the claims prior to the examination of the application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 5 and 6 as follows:

(A copy of the marked-up version of the amended claims are attached to this Preliminary Amendment).

5. (Amended) The point managing method according to Claim 1 wherein said recording media are IC cards or cellular phones, and a member certificate function and/or a member authentication function are added to said recording media.

6. (Amended) The point managing method according to Claim 1 wherein the service provider is a care giver, and the service user is a care receiver.

Please add new claims 21-27 as follows:

21. (new) The point managing method according to Claim 2 wherein said recording media are IC cards or cellular phones, and a member certificate function and/or a member authentication function are added to said recording media.

22. (new) The point managing method according to Claim 3 wherein said recording media are IC cards or cellular phones, and a member certificate function and/or a member authentication function are added to said recording media.

23. (new) The point managing method according to Claim 4 wherein said recording media are IC cards or cellular phones, and a member certificate function and/or a member authentication function are added to said recording media.

24. (new) The point managing method according to Claim 2 wherein the service provider is a care giver, and the service user is a care receiver.

25. (new) The point managing method according to Claim 3 wherein the service provider is a care giver, and the service user is a care receiver.

26. (new) The point managing method according to Claim 4 wherein the service provider is a care giver, and the service user is a care receiver.

27. (new) The point managing method according to Claim 5 wherein the service provider is a care giver, and the service user is a care receiver.

(Applicants' remarks are set forth herein below starting on the following page).

REMARKS

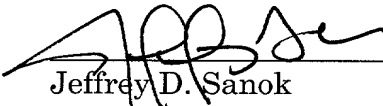
Entry of the amendments to the claims before examination of the application is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #381NP/50853).

Respectfully submitted,

January 15, 2002



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Please amend claims 5 and 6 as follows:

5. (Amended) The point managing method according to [any one of Claim 1 to 4] Claim 1 wherein said recording media are IC cards or cellular phones, and a member certificate function and/or a member authentication function are added to said recording media.

6. (Amended) The point managing method according to [any one of Claim 1 to 5] Claim 1 wherein the service provider is a care giver, and the service user is a care receiver.